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OREGON WEATHER
 +-----+
 + Tonight and Saturday partly +
 + cloudy; warmer west portion +
 + Saturday; variable winds. +
 +-----+

FRIDAY, MAY 10, 1916.

NATIONAL RURAL CREDIT SYSTEM.

The passage of a rural credit bill by the senate, with an overwhelming vote, means that a system will be established by this congress if the leaders are in earnest. The senate bill could be put through the house under a special rule at any time. There were so many amendments accepted in committee of the whole as to make it hazardous to comment on the bill until it is read in its revised form, but its salient provisions insure that the bonds based on long-term farm mortgages will be regarded as gilt-edged securities at home and abroad. The capital, surplus and undivided profits of the land banks will be exempted from all taxation, federal, state and municipal. It is likely that all the capital will be furnished by the treasury. There will be such strict federal supervision as to title and appraisal of land as to insure confidence and the securities are treated in such a manner as practically to place the credit of the nation behind them. Whatever criticism the bill may provoke will be directed at its paternalistic features. Nobody will question the marketability of the securities.

If the senate bill has been as carefully drawn as its friends say, there will be no necessity for much expense in selling the bonds. It will not be necessary to send out agents to "boost" securities, any more than it is necessary to employ agents to convince investors how good government bonds are. This means that the rate of interest will be much lower than if the maintenance of sales agents were necessary. No state system can successfully compete with a federal system in this respect.—Globe-Democrat.

A NATIONAL CONVENTION.

The national republican nominating convention will be held on June 7, now but little more than two weeks in advance. The greatest interest attaches to this convention from the fact that while it will meet as two conventions, every republican hopes for an amalgamation of the forces, while democracy is just as hopeful that the two branches will fail to meet on a common ground. There will be 985 delegates, and an equal number of alternates within the republican convention, while the progressive convention will seat 700 delegates. Each convention will have an equal number of alternate delegates, while there will be a small army of officials, reporters, telegraph officials, etc. At least 100,000 visitors will be in attendance, and 25,000 women are to arrange and stage an equal suffrage demonstration.

The G. O. P. and the Moose committees have been busy putting the finishing touches on preparations for the convention. The building will be decorated in gala fashion. The speakers' stand will be in the south end of the Coliseum. Arrangements have been completed to accommodate 11,000 people.

The press will occupy the first 700 chairs encircling the speakers' platform. The 985 delegates will follow, and beyond them will be seated as many alternates. The rear end of the

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main floor and the balconies will take care of the spectators.

The Moose convention will be held in the Auditorium theater. This building will hold 4,000. The speaker's chair will be placed on the stage, which has been lengthened and widened to be able to hold 250 seats for the press in front of the speaker. About 500 seats will be embarked in the rear and in the wings for spectators.

Behind the press seats will be 700 delegates and as many alternates. The balconies will accommodate the spectators.

The chairman of the convention committee of the G. O. P. has been given 2,000 seats, which are called "the maruma tickets." In other words, these pasteboards will have to be sold for \$100,000 with which to pay the convention expenses.

Sergeant-at-Arms Stone will have 2,000 assistants at the G. O. P. convention, besides the help of 250 of "Chicago's finest," headed by Assistant Chief of Police Herman Schnetler.

Police ambulances will be ready for attendance at all times, as well as Red Cross corps and two full companies of the fire department.

BOILER EXPLOSION
SENT CYMRIC TO BOTTOM
 Berlin, via Wireless to Sayville, May 19.—The liner Cymric was sunk by a boiler explosion, and was not torpedoed. This assertion was made by a member of the crew on reaching Amsterdam, according to dispatches received today.



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HEAVY VOTE IN OREGON PRIMARY

Portland, May 19.—Oregon voters are expressing their preferences of candidates for national, state and county offices.

Principal interest centers in the race between Hughes, Cummins and Burton in the presidential preference primary. This contest is of particular national interest because Oregon is the only state in which Hughes' name thus far has appeared on a primary ballot. Cummins and Burton both have stumped the state. Hughes became a candidate against his own wishes, the state supreme court deciding that his name must go on the ballot if enough voters wanted it, despite the fact that Hughes himself objected.

A heavy vote was indicated early today.

Woodrow Wilson is the only democratic presidential candidate whose name appears on the ballot today. The democratic vice-presidential nomination is sought by Governor Majors of Missouri, William Grant Webster of Illinois and Vice-President Marshall.

Only in the Third congressional district (Portland) is there a contest for congress. Representative McArthur is opposed by E. V. Littlefield and A. W. Lafferty. The campaign for this republican nomination has been particularly bitter, and national prohibition was made the chief issue.

The position of secretary of state has brought forth a hot contest between Ben W. Olcott (Incumbent) and C. B. Moores on the republican ticket. Olcott is a brother-in-law of former Governor West, a democrat. Republicans questioned Olcott's orthodoxy, and Moores, heretofore secretary of the republican state central committee, was put up to defeat him for the nomination.

10 MINUTES FOR SPELLBINDERS

Chicago, May 19.—Nominating speeches at the republican national convention here next month will be limited to ten minutes and seconding speeches to five minutes, it was announced today.

The republican and progressive candidates will be in constant communication by telephone, it is reported. The progressives are expected to wait until they hear what is transpiring in the G. O. P. hall before taking any decisive steps.

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VILLISTA BANDITS HARD TO SQUELCH

Advanced Base, San Antonio, Chihuahua state, Mex., May 6.—(By courier to Columbus, N. M., May 19.)—Chasing Villista bandits is like fighting a stubborn fire; squelch them in one place and they break out in another.

The American troops have clashed with the main body of Villistas in four "major engagements." In each case the enemy has lost heavily and his force has been scattered and broken. Three times the bandits have reorganized and recruited almost to their original strength. And there is every possibility that they will be able to do so again.

Colonel Dodd and his column of Seventh cavalry struck the Villistas at Guerrero on March 28, defeating them in a running fight and sending them scurrying into the hills in small groups. Four days later Colonel Brown of the tenth surprised a force composed of these scattered remnants at Aguas Calientes. Again the bandits were broken up. Then came the only real stand the Villistas have made, the battle with Dodd at Tomachic, April 22. Although badly whipped at least a hundred of the Villistas who participated in the engagement were able to get together and give Major Howze's Eleventh cavalry a battle at Ojo Azules. Nearly half of the Mexican force was left dead on the field. Many badly wounded are reported to have gotten away.

Despite this overwhelming defeat, it is still an open question whether this band will be able to re-form again.

The American expedition has been in Mexico nearly two months. Francisco Villa, whose capture or death were the main objects, has been driven into retirement. Reported from various sources to be badly wounded, he may either be dead or disabled. At least he has been eliminated as a political and military factor in Mexico for the time being.

About 150 of his men, including those lost at Columbus, have been killed. Several of his chiefs are among the dead. Yet banditry is still prevalent in those parts of Chihuahua not actually policed by American troops. Reports are being received almost daily of various sized bands operating in districts removed from American lines. Some of these are identified as Villistas. The identity of the others is doubtful, individuals of known Villista sympathies are constantly being brought into camp by patrols. Even now several detachments are in pursuit of Candelario Cervantes, reported at large with a considerable force.

Where is it going to end? Kill a Villista and two bob up in his place. Decimate an entire band and it is recruited to full strength a few days later. It really will be quite a job to eliminate every "malo hombre" in northern Mexico, but it appears as though the expedition will have to do just that if it is going to make the country habitable. Given time, they promise to do it.

AUSTRIANS SEIZE ITALIAN CANNON

Berlin, May 19.—Austrian troops continuing their drive in southern Tyrol, conquered several additional important Italian positions, it was officially announced today. They took more than 900 prisoners.

The Austrians seized 18 cannon and machine guns. Italian reports of enormous Austrian losses were officially denied. The war office stated they were circulated to diminish the effects of the Italian retreat.

Vienna claimed the Austrians conquered the frontier ridge of Maggio, between Astico and Lano valleys, and that they crossed Luan valley, capturing Costabell and repulsing attacks south of Roverto.

On the Corinthian front, it was stated, the action was hampered by dense fog.

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REFUSED TO SEND TROOPS TO IRELAND

London, May 19.—War Minister Kitchener refused to send troops to Ireland more than two months ago, when the authorities knew trouble was brewing. Augustine Birrell, resigned chief secretary for Ireland, testified today before the Royal investigating board inquiring into the Irish rebellion. He declared that early in March he became apprehensive with regard to the situation and asked Earl Kitchener to send troops to Ireland. This was refused, Birrell testified, Kitchener saying that he could not spare any men.

The defiant attitude of the Ulster people encouraged the rest of Ireland to revolt, said Birrell. Gun-

running, he asserted, was common. Birrell said that if the home rule measure were not passed at the end of the war there would be a revolt anyhow. He declared that rebel ranks were augmented by military "slackers," who should have been compelled to go to the front.

Reputed the Job.
 "Why is old Hooker's wife so indignant at him?"
 "Hooker was telling some one that his wife was the making of him and she overheard him."—Browning's Magazine.

Mining blanks at the Courier office.

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